

RULES AND REGULATIONS

2 VAC 5-50-10 through 2 VAC 5-50-110

(Previously VR 115-02-03)

Governing the

PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND ERADICATION OF BRUCELLOSIS OF CATTLE IN VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services

DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY SERVICES

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**Governing the
Prevention, Control, and Eradication of
Brucellosis of Cattle in Virginia**
(Previously VR 115-02-03)

Promulgated Pursuant to

Sections 3.1-724, 3.1-725 and 3.1-749 through 3.1-757

of the

Code of Virginia of 1950

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REGULATIONS 2 VAC 5-50-10 through 2 VAC 5-50-110

Governing the PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND ERADICATION OF BRUCELLOSIS OF CATTLE IN VIRGINIA

Pursuant to the authority in Sections 3.1-724, 3.1-725 and 3.1-749 through 3.1-757 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended, the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services hereby adopts the following Rules and Regulations Governing the Prevention, Control, and Eradication of Brucellosis of Cattle in Virginia.

2 VAC 5-50-10. Official tests; identifying cattle tested.

The agglutination tests (examples: plate agglutination test, tube agglutination test, and card agglutination), on blood serum from samples drawn and labeled so as to identify each animal from which the sample is drawn, and submitted to the laboratories of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by an accredited veterinarian or a veterinarian in the employ of the state or federal government, are hereby adopted as the official tests for the diagnosis of brucellosis in Virginia. The testing of blood or blood serum for the diagnosis of brucellosis in any other manner is prohibited, unless specifically authorized in writing by the State Veterinarian. All cattle from which a blood sample has been drawn shall be identified by an official pass tag, unless such cattle carry an official tag of another state, or unless they carry some other form of permanent identification which is recognized by the State Veterinarian.

2 VAC 5-50-20. Identifying, quarantining, and branding reactor cattle.

Cattle declared to be reactors to the official test for brucellosis, or cattle declared to be reactors to any other tests specifically authorized by the State Veterinarian, shall be effectively identified as such. Such cattle shall be immediately tagged with a metal tag in the left ear, bearing the inscription Virginia B.D. or U.S.B.D., quarantined, and promptly reported to the State Veterinarian. Before such animals are permitted to leave the premises where tested, they shall be branded with the letter "B" not less than two inches high on the left jaw.

2 VAC 5-50-30. Permits required for movement.

No cattle which have been bled for brucellosis testing and for which results are pending, and no cattle which are declared to be reactors to such test, shall be removed from the premises where tested without a permit from the State Veterinarian.

2 VAC 5-50-40. Number of permits required; to whom issued.

Permits as provided above shall be issued only to the owner of the cattle to be moved. Separate permits are required for each animal or when more than one animal is moved in one drove, truck, or carload, one permit shall suffice for each such group.

2 VAC 5-50-50. Authorized consignment and handling of cattle moved under permit; movement of reactors.

Permits for movement within the Commonwealth of Virginia may be issued for moving animals from quarantine only to:

1. Public stockyards or sale yards operated under state or federal inspection.
2. Slaughterhouses in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
3. Slaughterhouses in other states in interstate commerce under federal permits.

Animals moved under state permit to stockyards or sale yards must be kept separate from all other animals except those sold for immediate slaughter. All reactors shall be moved from stockyards or sale yards to slaughterhouses in Virginia or moved in interstate shipment under federal permit to slaughterhouses in other states.

2 VAC 5-50-60. Testing of adult breeding cattle upon sale or transfer of ownership; transfer of adult animals from one location to another.

Exclusive of animals specifically designated for slaughter and exclusive of those animals originating directly from brucellosis certified-free herds, all adult breeding cattle which are presented for sale or transfer of ownership in Virginia shall be tested and found negative for brucellosis within 30 days prior to such sale or ownership transfer. This shall be applicable to all transactions involving the transfer of adult breeding cattle from one location to another within the Commonwealth of Virginia, whether the animals be conveyed via private or public sale, direct or indirect sale, or in any other manner. When the State Veterinarian deems it necessary, the cattle owners are so notified in writing that these requirements should be met. The State Veterinarian may waive this requirement if, in his opinion, brucellosis is no longer a threat to cattle in Virginia.

2 VAC 5-50-70. Calfhood vaccination; identification of vaccinated calves; report required.

Official calfhood vaccination for brucellosis shall mean the injection into the female bovine of not less than four months of age and not more than 12 months of age, by an accredited veterinarian or veterinarian in the employ of the state or federal government, of a reduced dose of *Brucella abortus* strain 19 vaccine diluted as approved by the State Veterinarian. At the time cattle are vaccinated, the veterinarian shall apply an official vaccination tag in the right ear, provided no other tag has been previously applied, and apply to the right ear of the vaccinated animal a tattoo containing the United States Registered Shield and V, preceded by a number indicating the quarter of the year and followed by a number corresponding to the last digit of the year in which the vaccination was done. A report of each vaccination shall be made promptly to the State Veterinarian on a form supplied by him.

2 VAC 5-50-80. Vaccination of adult cattle; identification of vaccinated adult animals.

Official adult vaccination for brucellosis shall be the injection of a reduced dose of *Brucella abortus* strain 19 vaccine into the female bovine over 12 months of age. The vaccine shall be diluted as approved by the State Veterinarian. The dose shall be given by a

veterinarian employed by the state or federal government, or by an accredited veterinarian. At the time of the vaccination, the veterinarian shall apply an official tag in the right ear, and shall also apply to the right ear an official "AV" (adult vaccination) tattoo, preceded by the quarter of the year, and followed by a number corresponding to the last digit of the current year.

2 VAC 5-50-90. Brucellosis-free certified herds.

Brucellosis-free certified herds of cattle in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be governed by the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as specified in the "Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication" (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 1, Parts 1 to 199).

2 VAC 5-50-100. Classification status of brucellosis in Virginia.

Brucellosis classification in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be governed by the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service as specified in the "Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication."

2 VAC 5-50-110. Depopulation of brucellosis infected herds.

Brucellosis infected herds may be depopulated where approved by the State Veterinarian provided funds are available to compensate the owner; or, the owner may follow a test and slaughter program as outlined in the "Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication," or by procedures established by the State Veterinarian.